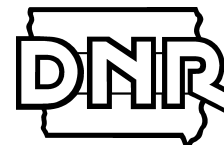


# TANK MEMO



**TO:** Groundwater Professionals  
**FROM:** Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Underground Storage Tank Section  
Wallace Building, Des Moines, IA 50319

May 17, 1999  
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## Groundwater Professional Workshops

The acceptance rate for Tier 1 reports in March 1999 was 67%, and for Tier 2 reports it was 52%. We are searching for ways to improve acceptance rates. One approach we are taking is to conduct workshops focused on resolving technical problems encountered with RBCA site evaluations. These workshops are also being held in response to your comments about the need to improve communication between DNR and groundwater professionals.

We have scheduled three workshops around the state, each from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**June 28—Iowa City**, Public Library, 123 South Linn, Meeting Room A

**June 29—Denison**, City Hall, 111 North Main Street, City Hall Meeting Room

**June 30—Ankeny**, Des Moines Area Community College, Building 7, Oak Room

This is your opportunity to discuss guidance interpretations and site-specific evaluations with DNR staff who review RBCA reports. The format of the workshops will be to establish some ground rules, and then simply open it up for questions about sites. Please bring your paper and computer files for a site if this will help explain the problem. This will be your meeting. The workshops will not be a success if you don't actively participate. Contact Jim Humeston at 515/281-8135 if you have questions about the workshops.

## MTBE Monitoring Required July 1, 1999

The appropriations bill which passed this spring (HF 772) and becomes effective July 1, 1999, contains three brief sections on methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE):

- a. prohibits the sale of fuel with more than 2% MTBE after February 1, 2000; requires Department of Agriculture to adopt rules to ensure MTBE "does not cause a threat to the public health or environment by contaminating groundwater or surface water in this state."
- b. establishes a legislative interim study committee on ethanol and MTBE
- c. provides DNR the authority to require testing for MTBE at LUST sites. The legislation also requires DNR to provide a report of MTBE occurrences in groundwater and soil to next year's legislature.

DNR is in the process of considering guidelines and/or rules for MTBE monitoring. MTBE is a fuel additive and a suspected human carcinogen which has been found in groundwater in some areas.

## Clarification on Soil Gas Sampling Method

Attached are revised pages for Tier 2 guidance on soil gas and the cover page. Changes are noted with a dotted underline. Please replace these pages in your Tier 2 Guidance to keep it updated.

## Reminder about Soil Sampling

The use of solid stem augers is not an acceptable method for obtaining soil samples for screening or to determine appropriate coring sample depth, because proper field screening techniques cannot be performed on soil cuttings. The *Tier 1 Guidance* (page 22, under Boring Depth for Sampling), states borings must be drilled to the bottom of soil contamination as estimated by field screening. Under Field Screening: "Soil **core** samples must be screened

continuously using appropriate vapor screening instruments...” This means a coring device must be used to obtain soil samples, from the top to the total depth of a boring/well.

## **Requests for No Further Action Certificates**

When submitting well abandonment forms and legal descriptions, please:

- explain you are requesting a no further action certificate, and
- include a LUST number on the Abandoned Water Well Plugging Record (such as in the upper right corner).

## **Groundwater Professional Certifications Expire 12/31/99**

Iowa DNR will mail renewal applications to all currently certified groundwater professionals in early October.

Renewals must:

- be received by Iowa DNR or postmarked by November 1, 1999, and
- be accompanied by the certification fee of \$200, and
- contain proof of completing the continuing education requirements in IAC 134.3(5).

**The continuing education requirement for all groundwater professionals is 12 classroom hours in a two-year period, which must be completed prior to the renewal deadline.** Please note: we will **not** be giving continuing education credits for HazMat refresher training.

If you have questions regarding CEUs you need for renewal, please contact Sherry Proctor at 515/281-8865; or E-mail: sprocto@max.state.ia.us.

## **Groundwater Professional Billboard**

Check out the Tank Web Page (<http://www.state.ia.us/epd/ust/rbca.htm>) for the Groundwater Professional Billboard. We will be posting items of general interest to consultants such as modifications or clarifications of guidance and program development issues.

## **LUST Site Information**

DNR has diskettes available that contain LUST status and site information for the entire state. This information may assist consultants in their marketing activities. The information is stored as ANSI delimited text files. PKZIP is used for data compression. Each text file represents a table in the database. You can import the text files into the PC database system of your choice. The DNR does not support the process of importing the files or any PC database system. The cost for the diskettes is \$131.25. Contact Alesia Whitney-Knight at 515/281-8987 for additional information.